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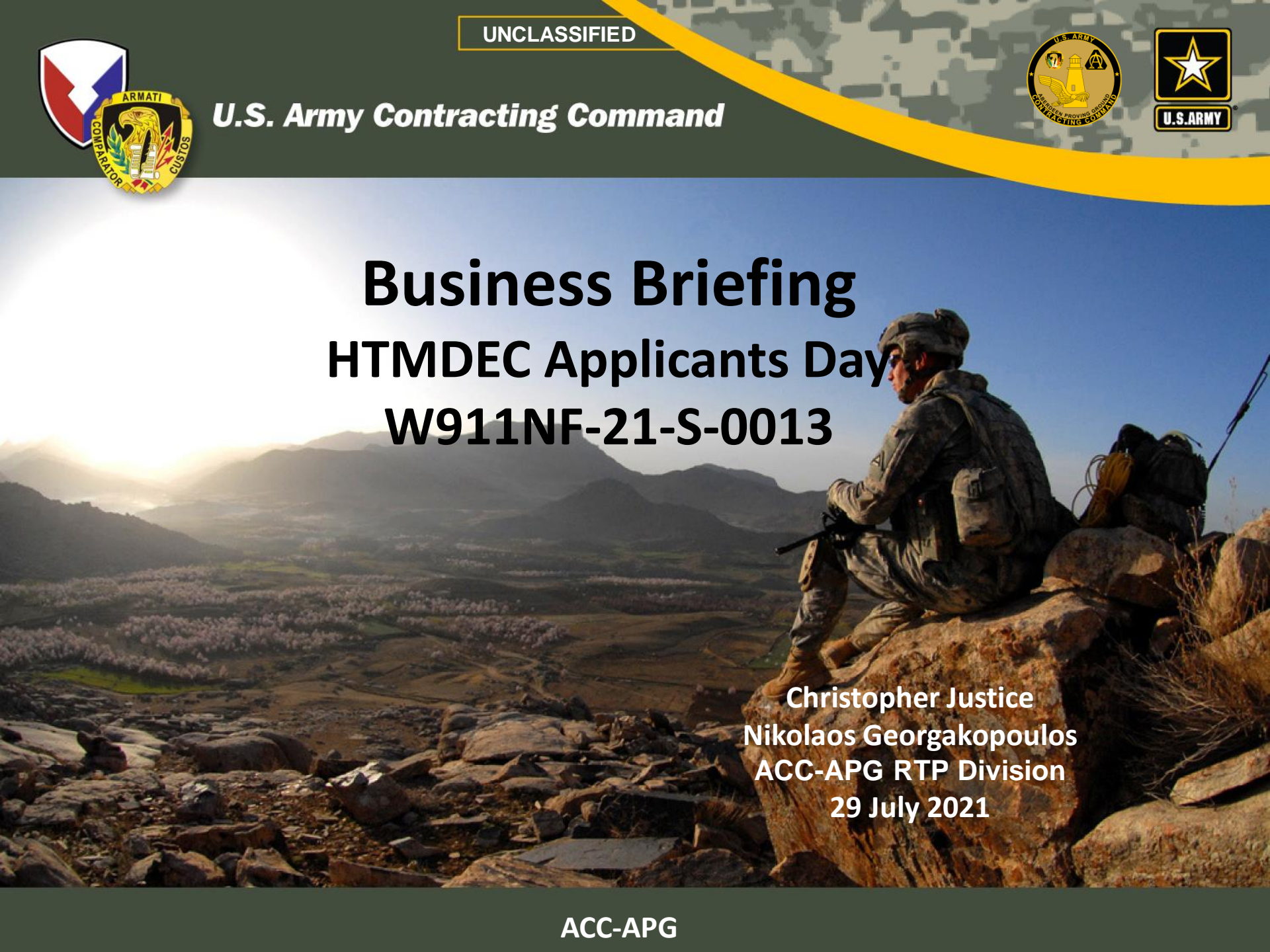
**U.S. Army Contracting Command**



# **Business Briefing**

## **HTMDEC Applicants Day**

### **W911NF-21-S-0013**



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**ACC-APG RTP Division**  
**29 July 2021**

**ACC-APG**



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## ***Eligibility Information***

- **Eligible Applicants include:**
  - **Institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit organizations (i.e. large and small businesses) in the United States or its territories.**
- **The Recipient institution personnel are not required to be US citizens, however, this FOA offers fellowships as incentives to employ and train US-citizen graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.**



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## ***Eligibility Information***

- **This eligibility criteria applies to all applicant institutions involved in the substantive efforts of the proposal (e.g. the Recipient).**
- **Because the research and development being conducted under this program is sensitive in nature and on the military critical technology list, the eligibility criteria is ONLY for United States Applicants.**



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## ***Teaming Arrangements***

- **Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC) may propose, as allowed by their sponsoring agency, and in accordance with their sponsoring agency policy (IAW FAR 35.017).**
- **Proposals may consist of teams from any combination of organizations (e.g., Prime and Subawardees), but this is NOT a requirement for award and award will ONLY be made to a single entity.**





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## ***Award Information***

- Intent is to award multiple “Seedling” Cooperative Agreements (CAs) from Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) W911NF-21-S-0013.
- It’s anticipated that funding will run for 10 years, with anticipated available funding of approximately \$5M per year (please note: actual duration and funding levels may vary).



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## ***Award Information***

**A CA is used to enter into a relationship when:**

- **The principal purpose of which is to transfer a thing of value to the Recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law or the United States, rather than to acquire property or services for the Federal Government's direct benefit or use.**
- **Substantial involvement is expected between the Federal Government and the Recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the CA.**
- **No fee or profit is allowed.**



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## ***Award Information***

- **Multiple award are anticipated from year-to-year, with all seedlings in Year 1, and a mix of “Seedlings” and Centers in subsequent years.**
  - **Example:**
    - » **Year 1: 10-12 Seedlings (approx. \$500K per Seedling).**
    - » **Year 2+: 2 - 3 Centers (approx. \$1.5M-\$2.0M per Center per year).**
    - » **2 - 3 Seedlings (approx. \$200K per Seedling per year).**
    - » **At least 1 Seedling dedicated to data handling and management (approx. \$200-500K per year).**
- **As Centers are more comprehensive and required to address all 4 thrust areas, these projects will be funded at higher levels than “Seedling” projects, which are allowed to focus on a single thrust area.**



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## ***Period of Performance***

- The CAs will consist of an initial 12-month base award that will be awarded and considered a “Seedling” CA.
- The Recipients of a “Seedling” CA award are then eligible for consideration to receive funding for a single optional extension of up to four (4) years at the conclusion of the “Seedling” project, and at the discretion of the Government.
- The Government reserves the right to negotiate with an applicant to re-scope their proposal or optional proposal technical focus, period of performance, and associated costs in order to maximize the available program funding, balance of research topics across the program, and overall impact to the program.





## ***Place of Performance***

- **There is no limitation on the place of performance, although on-site collaboration at DEVCOM-ARL facilities and with DEVCOM-ARL researchers, as well as with other Seedling Recipients is encouraged.**
- **It is mandatory that all Recipients participate at annual Program Review Workshops that will likely be held virtually to start. They will likely revert to in-person meetings in the vicinity of DEVCOM-ARL (Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD).**



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## ***Profit/Fee***

- In accordance with 32 Code Federal Regulations (CFR) § 22.205, profit/fee is not permitted under the CA for the Recipient or any Subawardees.



## ***Submission Process***

- **Process consists of a two-step application process: Whitepaper and Full Proposal stage.**
- **ONLY the most highly rated Whitepapers will receive an Invitation to submit a Full Proposal.**
- **Applicants that do NOT submit a timely and compliant Whitepaper, are NOT eligible to submit a Full Proposal for consideration for funding.**
- **Applicants who do NOT receive an Invitation, CANNOT submit a Full Proposal.**



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## ***Submission Process***

- **Applicants invited to submit Full Proposals will receive feedback on their Whitepaper.**
- **Applicants NOT invited to submit Full Proposals, will NOT receive feedback on their Whitepaper.**
- **Applicants who have NOT submitted a Whitepaper, CANNOT submit a Full Proposal.**



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## ***Submission Process***

- **Whitepapers can ONLY be submitted via email to the email address listed in the FOA.**
- **Whitepapers submitted by any other means will NOT be evaluated or considered for a “Seedling” award.**
- **The Government’s decision to award a “Seedling” CA will be based upon the evaluation results of the Full Proposal submission.**





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## ***Submission Process***

- **Center option proposals will be evaluated and funding provided to those Recipients selected for the exercise of their option.**
- **ONLY those applicants awarded a seedling CA will be eligible for consideration of a 4 year option period.**



## ***Evaluation Process***

- **Whitepapers and Full Proposals received under this FOA will be evaluated using merit based, competitive procedures including:**
  - **Evaluation Factors (Separate/different factors for Whitepapers and Proposals).**
  - **Adjectival and Color rating system.**
- **A Review Team, consisting of scientists and managers will evaluate the Proposals and provide the results of that evaluation to the decision maker for the Government.**



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## ***Evaluation Process***

- **SECTION D.1-5 of the FOA includes the identification and description of the evaluation factors for BOTH the Seedling and Centers Whitepaper submissions.**
- **SECTION F of the FOA includes specific content information for the Full Proposal submissions.**

***READ THIS INFORMATION CLOSELY IN THE FOA!***



# ***Whitepaper Content – Seedling Awards***

- **Cover Page – 1 page**
- **Scientific – 6 pages**
- **Impact – 1 page**
- **Programmatic – 1 page**
- **Addendum – 1 page**

**Note: The Cover Page must indicate which of the four (4) General technical thrusts the proposal will address. For FY2022, the additional option exists to submit Seedlings under the two (2) targeted thrusts, and the Cover Page for Seedling White Papers must indicate which of the two (2) targeted thrusts the proposal will address. White Papers regarding the FY2022-only Targeted Thrusts must solely focus on that thrust area. Otherwise, white papers for General Thrusts may undertake multiple thrust areas.**



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## ***Whitepaper Content – Centers***

- **Cover Page – 1 page**
- **Scientific –3 pages**
- **Impact – .5 page**
- **Programmatic – .5 page**
- **Addendum – 1 page**

**Note: The Cover Page must indicate which of the four (4) General technical thrusts the proposal will address.**





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## ***Whitepaper Evaluation Criteria***

- **Whitepapers will be evaluated for the concept's scientific merit and relevance, research plan, plan for collaboration, experience and qualifications of the principle investigators, and potential contributions of the effort to the Army and DoD mission.**
- **Applicant's whitepapers that are rated most highly, may be invited to submit a Full Proposal.**



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## ***Whitepaper Evaluation Criteria***

- **Applicants will receive feedback on their Whitepaper, only if invited to submit Full Proposals.**
- **After the completion of the evaluation, Applicants with non-selected Whitepapers will be notified in writing (via email) of their non-selection, but will not receive feedback.**
- **White papers will not be returned to applicants.**



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## ***Full Proposal Evaluation Criteria***

- **Factors 1: Scientific Merit & Relevance**
  - **Factors 2: Research Plan and Plan for Collaboration**
  - **Factor 3: Experience & Qualifications of Scientific Staff and Junior Investigator Development:**
  - **Factor 4: Cost**
- 
- **The Government will make award to the Applicant(s) whose proposal conforms to the Funding Opportunity that offers the most-favorably rated proposal(s) based on the Full Proposal evaluation criteria noted above.**
  - **The Government reserves the right not to make an award, should no acceptable Full Proposal be submitted.**



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## ***Full Proposal Evaluation Criteria***

- **Applicants will receive feedback regarding their Full Proposal ONLY if it is selected for award.**
- **The Applicants selected for award will be notified by the Agreements Officer or his/her designee telephonically or via email.**
- **The CA award is not official until the Recipient has received the award signed by the Agreements Officer.**



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## ***Proposal Evaluation Criteria – Option Period***

- **At the end of Year 1, the decision to exercise option periods of any Seedling awards remains at the discretion of the Government.**
- **Details on the submission and evaluation of the option proposal will be provided to those Recipients who have received a Seedling CA award.**





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## ***Key Dates***

### **EVENT**

**Questions on Funding Opportunity  
Whitepaper Due  
Invitations for Proposals  
Full Proposals Due  
Seedling CA Awards**

### **DATE**

**06 August 2021  
31 August 2021  
October 2021  
01 November 2021  
January 2022**